(b) whether it is also a fact that due to delay on the part of State Governments to release funds, the working of ESI Hospitals and Dispensaries have been badly affected;

(c) if so, whether the Central Government have contemplated any steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): fa) to (d) The working of the ESI Scheme in the country is generally satisfactory. The responsibility for administration of medical care under the ESI Scheme rests on the State Govts. However, the expenditure on the ESI medical care in each State is shared by the ESI Corporation and the State Govt. in the agreed ratio of 7:1. As per agreement, the expenditure is initially borne by the State Govts. and thereafter it is reimbursed to the States by the ESIC on a quarterly basis. There have been complaints from the States that because of their financial constraints, they are not in a position to provide medicines and other facilities to the beneficiares timely. The matter has been looked into and in order to overcome this difficulty, the ESI Corporation has started releasing advance payment to the States.

Non-Receipt of PF Slips

1799. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that workers of M/s. Induchand Raggarhia & Sons (F) Ltd. Jhumri Tilaiya, Bihar have complained to the PF Commissioner Ranchi that they have not received PF slips since 1977.

(b) whether it is also a fact that employees of Premier Glass Industries Ltd., Jhumri Tilaiya have not received PF Slips since 1985;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the workers are facing great difficulties in drawing Provident Fund money due to this fact: and

(d) if so, what immediate steps Government are taking in the matter to redress the difficulties of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delay in Issuing Registration Certificate to Travel Agents

'800. SHRI BRAHAMDEO ANAND PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the New Registration certificates to the Travel Agents are unnecessarily delayed;

(b) what is the normal time for issuance of such certificates when all papers are completed;

(c) what are the reasons that the renewal of certificates is withheld for months together; and

(d) the details of such certificates and renewals pending at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (c) The registration certificates for recruitment of Indians for Overseas employment under the Emigration Act, 1983 are issued to the applicants in accordance With the provisions of the Act and the Rules framed thereunder. Generally, such certificates are issued within one and a half month for completion of procedural requirements. The issue of registration certificates can get delayed if the information furnished by the applicants is incomplete

or the applicants take a long time to furnish the requisite information.

(d) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Discrimination in Wage Payment

1801. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that different wages are paid to males and females for the same work in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details and steps taken by Government to end this discrimination; and

(c) what are the names of States and the industries where such discrimination in wages prevails?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the wage discrimination against women and have, therefore, enacted the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. The Act provides for equal remuneration to men and women for the same work or work of a similar nature and for prevention of discrimination against women not only in recruitment but also in relation to conditions of service subsequent to recruitment. The provisions of the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 have been extended to all categories of employment. Authorities have been appointed at central and state levels to enforce the provisions of the Act.

The Act was further amended to empower recognized voluntary organisations to file complaints in appropriate courts in cases of violation of its provisions. For this purpose four organisations have been recognized by the Central Govt.

Govt. recognise that the lower socio-economic status of women contributes to wage discrimination and have taken up many schemes for improvement in the status of women in order to create an environment of non-discrimination.

(c) Cases of wage discrimination occur in different States and industries from time to time.

देश में बीडी-कामगार

1802. **श्री महेश्वर सिंह**: क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि;

(क) देश में बीड़ी कामगारों की; राज्यवार संख्या कितनी-कितनी है,

(ख) क्या सरकार ने बीड़ी-कामगारों को पहचान पत्र देने की व्यवस्था की है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो बीड़ी-कामगारों को पहचान पत्र प्रदान करने के क्या-क्या मापदंड हैं और इस कार्य को निष्पादित करने वाली एजेन्सियों के नाम क्या हैं?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा): (क) देश में बीड़ी श्रमिकों की संख्या का राज्य-वार विभाजन दर्शाने वाला विवरण संलग्न है (नीचे देखिए) ।

(ख) और (ग) बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि नियमावली, 1978 में यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि प्रतिष्ठान का मालिक, कारखाना अथवा बीड़ी विनिर्माण में नियुक्त ठेकेदार प्रत्येक श्रमिक को निर्धारित प्रपत्र में पहचान पत्र प्रदान करेगा, जिसमें श्रमिक का फोटोग्राफ भी लगा होना चाहिए। राज्य सरकारों को अनुदेश जारी किए गए हैं, कि वे पहचान पत्रक जारी करने के उद्देश्य से बीड़ी श्रमिकों को पहचान करने का विशेष अभियान चलाएं। श्रम कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत कल्याण आयुक्तों को भी अनुदेश दिए गए हैं कि वे बीड़ी श्रमिक कल्याण निधि के अन्तर्गत् स्थापित किए गए औषधालयों के चिकित्सा अधिकारियों के माध्यम से बीडी श्रमिकों को कल्याण सुविधाएं प्रदान करने के लिए उनके लिए पहचान पत्र जारी करें।